CLAIMS

SUB A37

1. A method for providing access to resources comprising the steps of:

5   defining physical and/or logical parameters required for locating the desired resource;

        reading resource-specific information from a resource-specifying source specifying a
        structure comprising said resource;

10   generating hierarchical control information reflecting said structure; and

        enabling access to a desired resource by calling a resource access performer with at least
        one of said parameters and evaluating said control information.

15 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

        automatically triggering a semantic evaluation of the contents of a resource desired to be
        updated when said resource is referenced in calling said resource access preformer.

20 3. The method of claim 1 in which said resource-specifying source is an XML file.

    4. The method of claim 1 in which said hierarchical control information is defined in a data
        modeling schema comprising simple data types and at least one composition method for
        recursively constructing complex data types.

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    5. The method of claim 4 in which said schema comprises relations between data stored in
        one or more of said resources.

    6. The method of claim 1 in which said resources are shared between at least two different
30   operating systems.

7.   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

performing extended processing on said resources as defined in a Java class.

8.   A computer system having means for performing the steps of the method of claim 1.

9.   A computer program for execution in a data processing system comprising computer program code portions for performing respective steps of the method of claim 1.

10.   The computer program of claim 9 comprising an application interface for triggering requests for resource data processing from an application and an architectured interface for resource access.

11.   The computer program of claim 10 in which said interface comprises one or more calls to at least one resource access performer.

12.   A computer program product stored on a computer-usable medium comprising computer-readable program means for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 1.